

Economic Development Committee

Minutes

December 8, 2003

<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Also Present</u>
G. Daley	R. Santangelo	W. Warner, Director, PCD
S. Gionfriddo		R. Kearney, EDS
J. Bibisi		
J. Robinson		
Public: K. Marotta		

- A **Call to Order:** Daley called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.
- B **Public Session**
- C **Minutes:** Gionfriddo made a motion seconded by Bibisi to approve the minutes of November 14, 2003 and September 8, 2003. The committee approved the motion- Robinson abstained.
- D **Communications**
- E **Old Business**
 - 1) **North End Industrial Area**
 - a) Remington Rand
 - 2) **Industrial Park Area and Vicinity**
 - a) Lot 21 Middle ST/Timber Ridge RD
 - 3) **EXECUTIVE SESSION**- Discussion of documents, specifically confidential real estate evaluations and financial data submitted by prospective developers for information from the City of Middletown as authorized by Sections 1-19(b)(5, 7,8) of the Connecticut General statutes.
 - a) **Brownfields-Riverfront Properties:** The committee requested a resolution be sent to the Common Council designating the Economic Development

Committee as the city authority responsible for the South Cove Riverfront Development project under Chapter 132.

- 4) **JOBS Loan: Music Exchange**
- 5) **CBD Parking**
- 6) **Godfrey Library:** Kearney updated the committee on the site search. Warner suggested the city offer space at Remington Rand for temporary storage of documents. Daley asked staff to continue working with the Godfrey to find an appropriate site.
- 7) **North Cove Rentals**
- 8) **Middlesex YMCA Parking Lot:** General discussion ensued.

F New Business

- 1) **Standpipe/Saybrook Roads State Property:** Daley stated the committee had agreed to pass through the property at the sale price from the state. Gionfriddo stated the item be sent to the Common Council. General discussion ensued.
- 2) **Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce Business Retention Contract:** Daley stated in favor of continuing the relationship with the Chamber. Gionfriddo made a motion seconded by Bibisi to renew the contract. The committee approved the motion.
- 3) **Dr Liva Parking:** Warner updated the committee on the need for funds to pave the lot. Daley asked if the funds could be appropriated in the spring. Gionfriddo suggested asking if Public Works could include this in the bonding funds.
- 4) **Economic Development Brochure:** The committee favorably reviewed the materials and asked staff to meet with the publisher and report back to the committee.
- 5) **Rapallo Avenue Parking Lot:** Warner described the complaints by neighbors regarding after hours activities at the parking lot. General discussion of closing the lot. Robinson asked the committee to consider alternatives stating closing the lot would cause a hardship on the Realto Café and neighboring businesses. Bibisi added tenants in the area need the parking lot. Daley asked staff to investigate the costs of lighting and other improvements to the lot. Daley recommended increased police enforcement. Daley suggested the city write a letter to the Realto Café stating the city's interest in working in partnership with the café to rectify the situation including DUI checks.

G Status Reports

- 1) **Economic Development Fund, monthly report**

- 2) Economic Development Specialist Report
- 3) REINVEST Loan Program, monthly summary report
- 4) JOBS Loan Program, monthly summary report

H Other

I **Adjournment:** There being no further business, the committee adjourned at 8:27 PM.